Docket No.: 1254-0301PUS1

(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Shigeru NAKANO

Application No.: 10/561,834

Confirmation No.: 2986

Filed: December 22, 2005

Art Unit: 1656

For: GENE INVOLVED IN GROWTH-

PROMOTING FUNCTION OF ACETIC ACID

BACTERIA AND USES THEREOF

Examiner: Mitra, Rita

AMENDMENT IN RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Communication dated October 5, 2007, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper;

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper;

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 6 of this paper.